

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DLRANARD:LM

APPROVED BY D:KRUSH

EA - RLSNEIDER

S/S - MR. GAMMON

----- 104480

R 120157Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 242737

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR KIM'S FAREWELL CALL ON ACTING
SECRETARY

1. IN BRIEF FAREWELL CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY RUSH
DECEMBER 10, AMBASSADOR KIM DONG JO CONCENTRATED ON
EXPRESSING HIS APPRECIATION FOR COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP
SHOWN HIM "PERSONALLY AS WELL AS OFFICIALLY" DURING THE
PERIOD IN WHICH HE HAD REPRESENTED KOREA TO THE U.S.
HE REFRAINED FROM RAISING SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, SAVE FOR
PASSING REFERENCE TO NEED FOR U.S. HELP AND ADVICE IN
EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH SOVIET UNION AND PRC.
IN THIS CONNECTION HE STATED HE INTENDED TO KEEP CLOSE
TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR HABIB, AND HE ANTICIPATED VISITING
U.S. SOME TIME NEXT MAY OR JUNE FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH
DEPARTMENT.

2. ACTING SECRETARY CONGRATULATED KIM ON HIS APPOINTMENT
AND EXPRESSED REGRET AT HIS DEPARTURE. HE THOUGHT
PRESIDENT PARK HAD MADE A SPLENDID CHOICE AND ASSURED KIM
WE WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH HIM.

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3. KIM DEPARTS FOR SEOUL ON DECEMBER 12 VIA NW 3 (MRS. KIM WILL FOLLOW LATER.). ACCOMPANYING AMBASSADOR KIM WILL BE EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR LEE SANG OK WHO IS RETURNING TO SEOUL TO SERVE AS KIM'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY. OVER PAST FEW DAYS HE HAS BEEN ENTERTAINED BY DIPLOMATIC CORPS, SENATE AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH. UNDER SECRETARY PORTER TENDERED LUNCHEON IN HIS HONOR YESTERDAY. RUSH

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